

1:37 – Meeting portion begins

Chris convenes the meeting – introductions

Conference 2017 check-in

- Rob – last night’s reception was good – open, places to stand and sit. It was one of the more memorable arrangements
- Lezlie – on that topic – having to get the ticket then get the drink was a little strange
- Chris – out of our control
- Love the boutique-y feeling hotel – feels suited to our size and the staff are kind and it feels homey
- Having all the rooms on the same floor is nice
- Having room around reception to move is great
- Space is beautiful
- For the future – can we fold in why this city?
- Chris – in 2007 we voted to become a national rather than regional conference. This is the first time we have held our conference outside the Midwest region. So we are trying to diversify our locations. Milwaukee will be a new location, but back to the Midwest
- Peter – Our numbers are down a bit – not sure if that’s location or not, but we shall see
- Peter – we had a long relationship with Hyatt, but stopped working with them for a few years because of labor issues, but we’ve come back to Hyatt. It’s not a binding relationship by any means, but something we’re exploring
- Drew – some of the rooms have windows, and symposia aren’t just in the same rooms – nice to have some movement
- Rob – Some folks teach in smaller theatre venues than others, and like to use these conferences as a chance to see theatre.
- Chandra – Can the co-chairs help to communicate about what is happening in this town – what we can do HERE
- Peter – one of the constant struggles is how much do we help, and how much do we let you do it
- Drew – Is there a history behind why there is no respondent for Practice/Production and Pedagogy?
- Peter – These generally come from the symposia, and we are open to the conversation, but there is a cost
- Lezlie – is there anything to be concerned about with the smaller turnout?
- Peter – we’re in pretty good shape
- Chris – struggling with wheelchair accessibility – be sure to check in with each other co-chairs, reach out to the people who are dealing with that
- Peter – make sure there is always a wheelchair accessible space, rather than having to move chairs to make one
- Jocelyn – can we make a note about how some rooms are particularly awkward to enter
- Julie – doors have peep-holes
- Shawna – rooms are really chilly – not sure if each room can be adjusted – in particularly West Alabama

Beth talks about the nomination process

- We want to have more transparency, and encourage people to nominate themselves

- Nominations and Appointment committee bring in co-chairs, and take nominations for the elected positions
- Calls come out in Nov/Dec – we want to encourage people to nominate others and self-nominate. We want to spread the word and do this in a way that creates transparency.
- Cat wants to know what was said to the people who were not appointed
- Beth let them know they were not selected, but invited them to reapply
- Scott – Some people are under the impression that they have to BE nominated, rather than being totally fine with self-nomination
- Peter – we can announce in sessions that we will be looking for nominations, and don't hesitate to plant the seeds with people

Chris –

- Numbers are down – potentially because of the new location for people who might be used to driving to the Midwest. So we are asking symposia to double down on marketing and recruitment.
- We aren't a conference that says no to double dipping, but this year in particular has been a lot of overlap.
- We do like the smallness of this conference, but it would be great to continue to bring people
- We can have a conversation about limiting people to fewer sessions, but that might lead to a larger discussion within the leadership and bylaws. Though we are seeing a bit this year of people presenting pretty much the same thing in more than one session. But a lot of this can be fixed by more communication between symposia.
- Jocelyn – we can circulate the lists early on
- Beth – what if we were to scout for chairs locally as a way to help growing the network
- Cat – we could begin pooling resources on these local connections
- Beth – maybe we can bring people in as chairs who submitted but were not accepted
- Milbre – can we touch base with local academicians to bring their students as ways to bring in grad students of color, etc.
- Chandra – clarifying that these local recruits would still need to register

Chris is going to collect contact information from all the new co-chairs

Chris reveals the 2018 theme – Spin

Travis – thanks to the planners

2:10 Chris ends the meeting